Rooney Ranch , Inspiration Tree Picnic Area
Rooney Road and West Alameda Parkway
Morrison Vicinity
Jefferson County
Colorado

HABS No. CO-65-Q

HABS
COLO,
30-MORR,V,
1-Q-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

ROONEY RANCH, INSPIRATION TREE PICNIC AREA HABS No. CO-65-Q

Location:

Junction of Rooney Road and West Alameda Parkway,
Morrison vicinity, Jefferson County, Colorado

UTM Coordinates, Morrison, Colorado Quad:
A. 13/483860 4393200
B. 13/483840 4392250
C. 13/483040 4392250
D. 13/483040 4393200

Date of Construction:

1938-1954.

Present Owner:

Jefferson County Open Space Department

Present Use:

Recreational site.

Significance:

Rooney Ranch, one of the oldest ranches in Jefferson County, Colorado,
is significant for its local historical associations and for the high quality
of masonry construction exhibited in its principal structures.

The significance of the ranch to the historical and architectural
development of Jefferson County was recognized in 1975 when the site
was listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Rooney Ranch
was designated a Jefferson County Landmark the following year.

Historian:

Kenneth M. Gambrill
Kathryn M Kuranda
Colorado Department of Highways
August, 1983

Inspirational Tree Picnic Area is named for a massive Ponderosa Pine which is through to have been a favorite mediation spot for the Ute Chief, Colorow. The area was first improved as a Rooney family recreational site in 1938. Terraced, uncoursed rubble retaining walls, picnic tables and a concrete square dancing floor were added between 1948 and 1954. The site is now part of an eighty parcel owned by the Jefferson County Open Space Department.